

Sanitized - Approved For Release

JUN 24 1966 CIA-RDP75-00149R0002000300013-6



—United Press International

Helen Batherson, former "Girl Friday" for Julius Klein, adds a touch of laughter with her testimony in the Dodd hearing yesterday.

Sets Testimony By 4 Others to Back Him Up

Panel Also Hears
Former Assistants
To Senator, Klein

By ROBERT WALTERS
Star Staff Writer

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., today formally opens his defense before the Senate Ethics Committee.

He seeks to disprove charges that he misused his public office by making a 1964 trip to West Germany to assist a registered foreign business agent.

Five witnesses — including Dodd himself — will testify for the defense, John F. Sonnett, the senator's principal attorney, said yesterday.

Sonnett declined to identify the other witnesses but said some were from out of town. Dodd, scheduled to appear last, will testify today only if examination of the others is completed in time.

If not, the hearings into misconduct charges against Dodd probably will continue next week.

Says Aide Warned Dodd

The committee was told yesterday that a Dodd aide "warned the senator many times about the relationship" between himself and Julius Klein, a Chicago public relations man who is registered as a foreign agent for West German business interests.

Miss Terry Golden, a former secretary in Dodd's office, said David Martin, one of the senator's assistants, told Dodd his friendship with Klein "would cause a lot of trouble (but) the senator just refused to listen and he just expressed great concern."

Miss Golden said the warning was recounted to her by Martin just before or shortly after Dodd made the trip to Germany in April, 1964.

Documents introduced during the first two days of committee hearings indicated that Klein requested Dodd to go to Germany to bolster Klein's image and help him retain several public relations clients.

Klein's letters showed that he believed he was in danger of losing the accounts because of unfavorable publicity which stemmed from a 1963 Senate Foreign Relations Committee investigation of his activities.

Dodd has said he made the trip on official Senate Internal Security Subcommittee business to interview a Soviet spy who defected to West Berlin.

Klein's Washington office testified that Klein "called Dodd on innumerable occasions to ask him to intervene in his (Klein's) behalf . . . with regard to the clients he had lost."

Miss Helen E. Batherson, who said she was Klein's "girl Friday" in Washington from 1953 to 1965, told the six-man committee that Klein "is a very persuasive type person who calls repeatedly day and night to pressure someone to do something for him."

She said Klein "asked several senators to try to do the same thing if in fact they were willing . . . any number of senators were friends of Klein and had been for a number of years."

Klein also "asked several of his friends in the Senate to host and cohost luncheons" for West German officials, Miss Batherson added. She did not identify the other senators.

Miss Batherson said Dodd stayed at Klein's suite in New York City's Essex House about once every two months and never paid for the favor because Klein rented the suite on a yearly basis.

Two former Dodd employees, Michael O'Hare and Mrs. Marjorie Carpenter, said Dodd used the suite on an average of once month.

Admit Removing Documents

Mrs. Carpenter, Miss Golden, O'Hare and a fourth ex-employee of Dodd, James P. Boyd Jr., have acknowledged that they removed more than 4,000 documents from Dodd's files, copied them and turned them over to newspaper columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson.

Dodd has filed a \$2 million libel suit against the columnists.

Dodd told newsmen yesterday that the only thing Klein gave him in return for the West German trip was a 9-by-12-inch tabletop doily, "worth about \$2."

O'Hare, who said he was in charge of paying Dodd's personal bills, told the committee three large Persian rugs appeared in Dodd's Georgetown home in late 1964, and he had no idea of how they were purchased.

Pearson and Anderson have charged that Klein bought Dodd an expensive Persian rug as a 1964 Christmas present.

Mrs. Carpenter said a member of Klein's Washington staff delivered to Dodd's office a lengthy memo listing high-ranking West German officials and suggesting remarks Dodd might make to them to enhance Klein's reputation.

Marital Questions

Before Mrs. Carpenter was

testified that Klein "called Dodd on innumerable occasions to ask him to intervene in his (Klein's) behalf . . . with regard to the clients he had lost."

After bringing out that Mrs. Carpenter was divorced in 1963, Sonnett asked her: "Are you and Mr. Boyd planning to marry?"

"What was the question?" asked Stennis.

After Sonnett repeated it, Stennis said "I think that is a rather personal question." Mrs. Carpenter did not answer it.

But earlier Sonnett had asked her if, since 1963, she had had "a social relationship with Mr. Boyd."

"Yes, sir," she murmured. "And he is important to you?"

"Yes, sir," she said.

Sonnett told newsmen that Boyd, father of four children, obtained a divorce in April of this year.

The lawyer asked Mrs. Carpenter if it were correct that she was discharged by Dodd on Dec. 7, 1964.

"Yes, sir."

"And you were angry because of being discharged?"

"Yes, I think anybody would be who was discharged and given no reason."

"That's all," said Sonnett.

Testimony from Mrs. Carpenter about office "speculation" over \$10,000 Dodd "must have" received from Klein for making the West German trip left the committee in confusion at the close of its morning session yesterday.

Dodd Interrupts

As a result of the remark, Dodd clashed with committee members, accused the committee's counsel of being "unfair," and asked the Justice Department to prosecute Mrs. Carpenter for perjury.

The incident occurred while Mrs. Carpenter was telling of a conversation, held just after Dodd returned from Europe, between David Martin, still employed by Dodd, and Gerard Zeiller, a former Dodd aide now working for Sen. Norris Cotton, R-N.H. It included:

Martin: "I wonder how much Klein paid Dodd to do that?"

Zeiller: "Oh, I have known Klein for a long time. I knew him when I worked for Sen. Bridges." (An apparent reference to the late Sen. Styles Bridges, R-N.H.)

Martin: "He must have paid \$10,000."

Zeiller: "Oh, easily. At least that."

Asks Repetition

The committee chairman, Sen. John C. Stennis, D-Miss., im-

Sanitized - Approved For Release

CIA-RDP75-00149R0002000300013-6

Continued

Stennis, Mrs. Carpenter described the exchange as "cynical" and said she did not think either man "had any first-hand knowledge at all."

She further described the exchange as "speculation."

Stennis immediately ruled the testimony inadmissible, but Sen. John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky., asked that the ruling be suspended until Martin and Zeiller could testify.

Sonnett attempted unsuccessfully to speak and Benjamin R. Fern, the committee's chief counsel, offered to strike the testimony from the record.

Sen. James B. Pearson, R-Kan., asked that the testimony remain in the record, while Sonnett called for immediate testimony from Martin and Zeiller.

As the confusion increased, the committee recessed briefly and met in an adjoining room, but when the senators returned the debate continued.

Dodd Protests

Suddenly Dodd, who had remained silent and virtually expressionless throughout the earlier hearings, rose from his chair and approached Stennis.

"I may have been done irreparable damage by way of publicity," Dodd said. "I don't think this would be allowed to take place in any forum, and I think as a matter of fairness to me these two witnesses . . . should be called in here immediately and put under oath."

Speaking softly, but pounding a clenched fist into the palm of his open hand, Dodd argued that Fern, aware of what Mrs. Carpenter planned to say, should not have allowed her to testify and then move to strike the remarks.

Again, the debate resumed

among committee members over admissibility of the remarks and the need to call Martin and Zeiller. Sen. Wallace F. Bennett, R-Utah, said that having the two men testify immediately would "upset the orderly procedure" of the committee.

Stennis stood by his initial decision and, for the second time, announced a luncheon recess. But Dodd again rose from his chair. "I thought this was a fact-finding hearing and not a trial," he said.

Untrue, Dodd Says

Dodd later went before television cameras in the hallway to say that Mrs. Carpenter's statement was "absolutely untrue."

Martin told newsmen "no such conversation ever took place" and Zeiller said Mrs. Carpenter's testimony was an "absolute falsehood." They repeated this later under oath.

Dodd, in his first committee speech, said he would ask the Justice Department "to proceed with a perjury charge" and within an hour the senator's office released copies of a letter to Atty. Gen. Nicholas deB. Katzenbach.

"... I request that immediate steps be taken to present the matter to a grand jury for the return of an indictment for perjury," Dodd's letter said.

Boyd, in testimony earlier in the day, charged that Dodd was guilty of "misappropriation of hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign funds."

He said that when Dodd's financial statement for the 1964 election was released in December of that year, as required by Connecticut law, he found the totals "very erroneous and very disappointing."

JUN 24 1966